

Patent
Serial No. 09/653,827
Attorney Docket No. 9G01.1-040

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his consideration of this application, and appreciates that the Examiner has withdrawn the prior art rejection of claims 9-34 and 36-42.

Claim Amendments

Applicant has amended claim 36 by changing "a metadata model that represent" in line 1 to --a metadata model that represents-- to correct a typographical error.

Claims 1-8, 35 and 43-44 has been cancelled from the present application. Applicant retains rights to file a continuation application for the cancelled claims.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 36 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claim 9 recites "that" in line 2 and claim 36 recites "that" in line 1. The Examiner has indicated that pronouns are not permitted, only what being referred by "that" should be set forth in the claim.

The relevant phrase in claims 9 and 36 reads "a metadata model that represents one or more data sources". The objected "that" is a relative pronoun indicating that the preceding noun "metadata model" has the following characteristics, i.e., it "represents one or more data sources". Claims 9 and 36 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention, and thus they comply with the requirements under 35 USC 112. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant trusts that claims 9-34 and 36-42 are now in condition for allowance.

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Rejection under 35 USC 103(a) to claims 1-8, 35 and 43-44

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 35 and 43-44 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), alleging that these claims are unpatentable over Mullins (US Patent No. 5,857,197) in view of Baisley et al (US Patent No. 6,292,932).

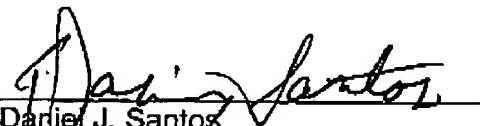
Claims 1-8, 35 and 43-44 have been cancelled.

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CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and Applicant requests a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should there be any further questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
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